

# What's New in the MPDC

JULY 23, 2001

## UNIQUE "JOHN SCHOOL" TARGETS PROSTITUTION PROBLEM IN DC

\*\*\*\*\*

As part of DC's continuing efforts to reduce prostitution and its impact on individuals and the community, the MPDC and other government and social service agencies are launching a unique "John School" – a diversion program for first-time offenders who solicit prostitutes in the District. Offenders who opt to participate in the program are required to pay \$300 and attend the eight-hour school. The school covers the problem of prostitution from a variety of perspectives, with the goal of informing "johns" that their behavior has consequences – for themselves, their families, the street workers and the community. Topics covered include the violence associated with prostitution, legal consequences, community impact, health risks, sex addiction, issues of power and control, and the trauma and victimization experienced by street workers and their families. The fees paid by John School participants are used to offset the costs of running the school and to support a new diversion program that will be offered to street prostitutes in DC beginning in August 2001. The diversion program for the prostitutes focuses on trauma reduction – not only physical violence, but also psychological and emotional damage – by seeking to offer a stabilizing environment to support street workers in making different life choices. Learn more about the new John School at:

*The coordinator of the John School is Caroline G. Nicholl, in the MPDC's Office of Organizational Development; she can be reached at 202-727-5029. The MPDC's Prostitution Unit, headed by Sergeant Edward Delisi, can be reached at 202-727-4450.*

[www.mpdc.org](http://www.mpdc.org) (Click on News)

## ROC-CENTRAL, NORTH CAPITOL COMMUNITY TEAM UP FOR SUMMER YOUTH CRIME PREVENTION

\*\*\*\*\*

Encouraged by their record of no youth-on-youth killings over the last three years, the North Capitol Street Collaborative and the Metropolitan Police Department, Regional Operations Command Central, have kicked off "Prevention Through Pride: 39 Days of Life and Respect" – an intensive, community-based effort to bring down violence while building up communities. "Prevention Through Pride" began on July 16 and concludes on August 30, with a Police Open House/Block party from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. on P Street between 7th and 8th Streets, NW. In each of the 39 intervening days, there will be at least one youth-focused, community-based activity in ROC-Central designed to uplift and encourage young people, while providing opportunities for children and their families to enjoy summertime activities in safe and secure environments. One event is scheduled for each of the 39 Police Service Areas in Police Districts 1,3 and 5. To learn more about "Prevention Through Pride," including a complete schedule of event, please visit:

[www.mpdc.org](http://www.mpdc.org) (Click on News)

## RED-LIGHT RUNNING VIOLATIONS STILL DOWN SHARPLY AT INTERSECTIONS EQUIPPED WITH CAMERAS

\*\*\*\*\*

Nearly two years into DC's photo enforcement traffic safety program, the number of motorists running red lights continues to decline sharply at the 39 intersections equipped with red-light cameras. Between August 1999 and June 2001, a total of 231,797 notices of infraction were mailed to motorists who ran red lights at photo-enforced intersections, and nearly \$12.3 million in fines have been collected. More important, the monthly number of violations captured at these intersections has declined 55.4 percent – the equivalent of about 21,000 fewer violations a month. The number of traffic fatalities in DC involving red-light running has declined from 16 in 1998 to 2 in 2000, the first full year of the red-light camera program. For the latest results on DC's red-light camera program, as well as information on the locations and operation of DC's photo enforcement cameras, click on:

[www.mpdc.org](http://www.mpdc.org) (Click on Services & Programs)

*The MPDC continues to issue warning citations to speeders caught by photo enforcement cameras, as part of a month-long warning period for DC's new photo radar program. On July 2, Chief Ramsey announced the speeding reduction program, with warnings only mailed until early August, when actual tickets are scheduled to be issued. For detailed information about the problem of speeding in DC and the photo radar program, go to:*

[www.mpdc.org](http://www.mpdc.org)  
(Click on Services & Programs)

## HELP FIND MISSING PERSONS IN DC

\*\*\*\*\*

While intense media coverage has focused on the Chandra Levy missing persons case for the past several weeks, the MPDC continues to seek the public's assistance in locating other persons reported as missing in DC. The outstanding cases include both children and adults, some of whom were reported missing several years ago. For example, Marilyn Byrd was reported missing in

*In most missing persons cases, the first 24-48 hours are usually the most important for investigators. Learn what to do during this critical time period, along with other important safety tips and procedures, by reviewing the MPDC's "Parental Guide to Missing Persons" at:*

[www.mpdc.org](http://www.mpdc.org)  
(Click on Crime Solvers)

1993, at the age of 4; her photograph has been age-progressed to show how she might look today. The MPDC is compiling a new booklet highlighting a number of current missing persons cases. If you have information about any of these cases or have seen any of these individuals, please call the MPDC non-emergency number (3-1-1), the Missing Persons Section (202-576-6768 or 202-576-7041) or DC Crime Solvers (1-800-673-2777). To view missing persons in DC, go to:

[www.mpdc.org](http://www.mpdc.org) (Click on Crime Solvers)

\*\*\*\*\*

*Information, ideas or comments about this service?*

*E-mail Kevin Morison, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at [kmorison\\_mpdc@excite.com](mailto:kmorison_mpdc@excite.com).*

*Would you like to have this information emailed to you? Just go to our web site and register with [crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com).*

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WEB PAGE**  
**WWW.MPDC.ORG**